

JOINT TASK FORCE - FULL ACCOUNTING  
BIOGRAPHIC/SITE REPORT AS OF 19 JANUARY 1994

===== BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION =====

REFNO: 1006-0-01 (ACCNO 0298) Status: (8) DEAD BODY NOT RECOVERED  
Name: WHITE, CHARLES EDWARD Date Status assigned: 6 Apr 1978

Nationality	AMERICAN	Race	NEGROID	Blood Chit	\$
Service	ARMY	Sex	MALE	Blood type	# #
Grade	E7	Hair	BLACK	Complexion	DARK
SSAN	DATA	Eyes	BROWN	Weapon	#
Serial No	15424446	Height	74 in / 1.88 mtrs	Weapon No	#
Birth date	18 May 1933	Weight	185 lb / 83.8 kg	Duty pos	TEAM LDR
Home State	ALABAMA	Religion	PROTESTANT	PW Camp	\$

===== SITE INFORMATION =====

INCIDENT LOCATION (0)

Site Type: GROUND SITE  
UTM: 48PYB489072  
Lat/Long: 143139N / 1071836E  
Country: CAMBODIA  
Military Region: 5  
Mission Province: RATANAKIRI  
(formerly): ROTANOKIRI  
Mission District:  
Mission Date: 29 Jan 1968  
Mission Category: 3  
Local Analysis: Remote area.

===== JTF-FA ACTIVITY SUMMARY =====

Folders Passed: Aug 92, Mar 92, Jan 92, Aug 91  
Vessey Case: NO  
Case type: DISCREPANCY

===== VEHICLE DATA =====

Vehicle Type: GRND	Serial: \$
Crash Type: None	Engine Type: \$
Call Sign: \$	1 Serial: \$
Year: \$	2 Serial: \$

===== SPECIAL CHARACTER KEY =====

# = Item has been researched but data cannot be obtained.  
\$ = Item is not applicable to this case.  
@ or Blank = Data for item is unknown or not available.

CASE: 1006

=== CIRCUMSTANCES OF LOSS ===

15 August 1975

ON 29 JANUARY 1968, SFC CHARLES E. WHITE WAS THE TEAM LEADER OF A RECONNAISSANCE TEAM THAT WAS INSERTED INTO A TARGET AREA IN CAMBODIA, THE TEAM CAME UNDER ENEMY FIRE AND CALLED FOR AN EMERGENCY EXTRACTION. DURING EXTRACTION THE TEAM HAD TO USE ROPES HUNG FROM HELICOPTERS BECAUSE OF THE HEIGHT OF THE JUNGLE CANOPY. (REF 1)

ACCORDING TO THE HELICOPTER CREW, THE THREE PERSONNEL ON THEIR ROPES SEEMED SECURE AT LIFTOFF. SFC WHITE INDICATED HE WAS HAVING DIFFICULTY HOLDING ON TO THE ROPE, THEN FELL. AT THE TIME THE ALTITUDE OF THE HELICOPTER WAS BETWEEN 75 AND 200 FEET ABOVE THE GROUND. DUE TO THE TIME OF DAY AND THE ENEMY SITUATION A RECOVERY TEAM WAS NOT INSERTED UNTIL THE NEXT DAY. (REF 1)

NO EVIDENCE WAS FOUND THAT SFC WHITE HAD BEEN IN THE AREA EXCEPT FOR THE PATH HIS BODY MADE THROUGH THE TREES AND BAMBOO. THE INCIDENT OCCURRED IN THE VICINITY OF GRID COORDINATES (GC) YB 489 072, (REFERENCE THE DD FORM 1300 ONLY) NEITHER BLOOD TRAILS WERE FOUND NOR EQUIPMENT RECOVERED. THE AREA APPEARED TO HAVE BEEN SEARCHED BY THE ENEMY. IT WAS ASSUMED BY THE RECOVERY TEAM THAT THE BAMBOO WAS THICK ENOUGH TO CUSHION THE IMPACT OF SFC WHITE, AND THAT HE COULD HAVE SURVIVED THE FALL. NO FRESH GRAVE SITES COULD BE LOCATED; AND IT IS DOUBTFUL THE ENEMY WOULD CARRY A BODY ANY GREAT DISTANCE BEFORE BURYING OR OTHERWISE DISPOSING OF IT. (REF 1)

DURING THE EXISTENCE OF JCRC, THE HOSTILE THREAT IN THE AREA PRECLUDED ANY VISITS TO OR GROUND INSPECTIONS OF THE SITE INVOLVED IN THIS CASE. THIS INDIVIDUAL'S NAME AND IDENTIFYING DATA WERE TURNED OVER TO FOUR-PARTY JOINT MILITARY TEAM WITH A REQUEST FOR ANY INFORMATION AVAILABLE. NO RESPONSE WAS FORTHCOMING. SFC WHITE IS CURRENTLY CARRIED IN THE PRESUMPTIVE STATUS OF DEAD, BODY NOT RECOVERED.

=== REFERENCES ===

15 August 1975

REFERENCES: <1> RPT FOB 2, 5TH SFGA, 11 APR 68. <2> CJTF-FA DET FOUR 170842Z DEC 93.

=== NEGOTIATION ACTIONS ===

2 December 1987

A CASE FILE NARRATIVE PERTAINING TO CHARLES E. WHITE WAS MAILED TO THE CAMBODIAN GOVERNMENT ON 18 MAR 87 BY THE EXEC DIR OF THE NATIONAL LEAGUE

CASE: 1006

OF FAMILIES.

9 September 1991

A NEGOTIATION FOLDER ON THIS CASE WAS PASSED TO THE GOVERNMENT OF CAMBODIA DURING THE 22-23 AUG 1991 TECHNICAL MEETING

9 March 1992

DURING THE 12-15 JAN 92 VISIT TO HAWAII, THE FOLLOWING CASE NARRATIVES WERE PASSED TO THE CAMBODIAN TECHNICAL DELEGATION: 1006.

23 July 1992

CASE NARRATIVE 1006 WAS PASSED TO OFFICIALS OF THE VIETNAMESE GOVERNMENT DURING THE 6-7 MAR 92 TRILATERAL MEETING HELD IN PHNOM PENH, CAMBODIA.

4 August 1992

CASE NARRATIVE 1006 WAS PASSED TO REPRESENTATIVES OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE STATE OF CAMBODIA FOLLOWING THE 3-4 AUGUST 1992 POW/MIA TECHNICAL MEETING.

=== JOINT INVESTIGATION, SURVEY OR EXCAVATION ===

13 January 1994

BETWEEN 15 AND 18 NOV 1993, A JOINT U.S.-CAMBODIAN TEAM INVESTIGATED CASE 1006. ON THREE SEPARATE DAYS, 15, 16 AND 18 NOV 1993, INVESTIGATION ELEMENT ONE (IE1) TRAVELED FROM KRATIE BASE CAMP TO THE REPORTED LOSS LOCATION FOR CASE 1006, GRID COORDINATES 48PYB489072, BY U.S. HELICOPTER. THE TEAM CONDUCTED AN EXTENSIVE AERIAL SEARCH OF THE REPORTED LOSS LOCATION IN AN EFFORT TO FIND A LANDING ZONE (LZ) CLOSE TO THE SITE AND TO LOCATE ANY VILLAGES FOR POSSIBLE WITNESSES. THE TEAM HOVERED OVER THE REPORTED LOSS LOCATION AND CONFIRMED THE LOCATION WITH THREE GLOBAL POSITIONING SYSTEMS (GPS). THE TEAM WAS NOT ABLE TO OBSERVE THE GROUND DUE TO THE THICK BAMBOO AND JUNGLE VEGETATION. THE AERIAL SEARCH EXTENDED 20 KILOMETERS FROM THE SITE AND ENCOMPASSED A 270 SQUARE KILOMETER AREA. THE TEAM FOUND NO VILLAGES, ROADS, TRAILS, OR ANY SIGNS OF HUMAN HABITATION. THE NEAREST POSSIBLE LZ WAS LOCATED AT 48PYB491996, ABOUT 10 KILOMETERS FROM THE REPORTED LOSS LOCATION. THIS LZ WAS CUT INTO THE JUNGLE TO SUPPORT THE CASE 1578 INVESTIGATION. ALTHOUGH CASE 1578 WAS ONLY ONE KILOMETER FROM THE LZ, MOVEMENT TO THE CASE LOCATION TOOK 2.5 HOURS OR AN AVERAGE RATE OF MOVEMENT OF 400 METERS PER HOUR. THIS MOVEMENT REQUIRED SEVEN CAMBODIANS LEADING THE TEAM TO CONTINUOUSLY CUT A TRAIL THROUGH THE THICK BAMBOO. BASED ON EXPERIENCE ON THE GROUND DURING

CASE: 1006

THE CASE 1578 INVESTIGATION, IT WAS DETERMINED IT WOULD TAKE A TEAM THREE DAYS TO MOVE FROM THE LZ TO THE REPORTED LOSS LOCATION FOR CASE 1006, AND THREE DAYS TO MOVE BACK. THE STEEP SLOPES, GREATER THAN 70 DEGREES THROUGHOUT THE AREA, MADE IT IMPOSSIBLE TO ESTABLISH AN INTERMEDIATE LZ TO SUPPORT THE INVESTIGATION. THE VEGETATION WAS SO THICK THAT VISIBILITY WAS EXTREMELY LIMITED, LESS THAN FIVE FEET IN MANY CASES. TIME DISTANCE FACTORS TO CASE 1006 PROHIBIT SAFE MOVEMENT ON THE GROUND. IT IS NOT FEASIBLE TO LEAVE AMERICANS OVERNIGHT ON THE GROUND IN THIS REMOTE, RUGGED AREA SINCE THERE IS NO MEANS TO EXTRACT THE TEAM IN AN EMERGENCY. THE SECURITY FORCE WAS UNWILLING TO MOVE ON THEIR OWN WITHOUT THE PRESENCE OF AMERICANS. THE FOREMOST REASON WAS THEIR INABILITY TO NAVIGATE TO THE REPORTED LOSS LOCATION. PROVEN ON THE GROUND, GPS DOES NOT FUNCTION CONSISTENTLY IN THIS DENSE, TRIPLE CANOPY JUNGLE; THEREFORE GPS WOULD BE OF NO USE IN ASSISTING THE CAMBODIAN SECURITY FORCE. IN SUMMARY, TIME AND DISTANCE FACTORS TO THE LOSS LOCATION, VAGUE CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE LOSS LOCATION, LACK OF ANY LANDING ZONE, NO WITNESSES AND SAFETY PRECLUDE ANY FURTHER ACTION IN CASE 1006. (REF 2)

JOINT TASK FORCE - FULL ACCOUNTING  
BIOGRAPHIC/SITE REPORT AS OF 28 MARCH 1994

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